

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION II, REMOVAL ACTION BRANCH  
POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: May 4, 1998

From: Eric J. Wilson, On-Scene-Coordinator  
U.S. EPA, Region II, Removal Action Branch

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START

Subject: Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Site, Residential Cleanup  
South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey

POLREP: Two (2)

II. BACKGROUND

Site No:	GZ
Delivery Order No.:	0017
Response Authority:	CERCLA
CERCLIS No.:	NJD981557879
NPL Status:	Proposed September 1997
State Notification:	NJDEP and NJDHSS Notified
Status of Action Memorandum:	Under preparation
Start Date:	March 29, 1998
Demobilization Date:	May 1, 1998

III. SITE INFORMATION

The site is an active industrial park located in an mixed industrial, commercial and residential area of South Plainfield, New Jersey. Cornell-Dubilier Electronics

operated at the Site from 1936 to 1962 and allegedly disposed of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contaminated materials and other hazardous substances directly onto site soils. PCBs have been detected on-site in soils and in building interiors. PCBs have been detected off-site in the surface water and sediment of the Bound Brook and in the soil and indoor house dust at residential properties in the vicinity of the Site.

#### IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

##### A. Situation

###### 1. Current Situation

The situation has not changed significantly since the last report.

###### 2. Removal activities to date

The cleaning of the interiors of homes was completed on April 26, 1998. The collection of post-cleaning house dust samples was completed April 29.

Earth Technologies Inc. (ETI) began demobilizing personnel and equipment on April 27. Demobilization was completed on May 1. An office trailer will remain on-site to support on-going investigation and community relations activities.

Sampling of homes in Tier 2 for risk characterization was completed on April 29. Soil samples were collected from 15 residential properties. Indoor dust samples were collected from 27 residences. Several of these properties are multi-unit dwellings, as such the number of residences where interior dust samples were collected exceeds the number of properties where soil samples were collected.

EPA staff were available at the trailer on April 28, between the hours of 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM to answer questions regarding EPA's activities in the community. Four residents from the surrounding community attended, questions focused on the screening sampling scheduled for May 4 and 5.



Screening sampling to identify areas for further investigation is scheduled to begin the week of May 4, 1998. This sampling will consist of collecting surface soil samples at 100 foot intervals in the area surrounding homes sampled for risk characterization.

### **3. Enforcement**

On April 22, a draft scope of work for removal and disposal of soil from six residential properties was sent to past owner/operator Cornell-Dubilier Electronics (CDE) and current site owner DSC of Newark Enterprises (DSC).

CDE has asked that they be allowed to determine vertical extent of contamination at these properties prior to deciding whether to undertake the work.

Consultants for CDE collected soil samples at the six properties on April 28 and April 29.

### **B. Planned Removal Activities**

Soil removal is required at six of the homes sampled to address health concerns to residents from potential exposure to PCB contaminated soil. The schedule for soil removal is dependent on the outcome of negotiations with potentially responsible parties.

### **C. Next Steps**

Screening sampling to identify areas for further investigation is scheduled to begin the week of May 4, 1998.

Sampling protocols will be established for evaluating health risks to occupants of commercial establishments bordering the Site.

### **D. Key Issues**

None.

V. COST INFORMATION (as of 05/1/98)

	<u>Amount Budgeted</u>	<u>Cost To Date</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>
ERRS Costs	\$ 130,000	125,790	4,210
START Costs	\$ 10,000	4,941	5,059
EPA Costs	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>7,600</u>	<u>2,400</u>
Total Costs	\$ 150,000	\$ 138,331	\$ 11,669

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.